

Message Text

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15

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 USIA-12 NSC-04 NSCE-00 /028 W

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R 150135Z SEP 73

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 709

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

LIMITED OFFICIAL PEKING 1050

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL CH

SUBJ: PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA

1. SUMMARY. PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA OFF TO FINE START DESPITE LAST MINUTE CHANGES IN SCHEDULE AND PROGRAM. END SUMMARY.
2. UPON ARRIVAL IN PRC, ORCHESTRA CONFRONTED WITH REQUEST TO REARRANGE ONE PROGRAM TO INCLUDE BEETHOVEN'S SYMPHONY NO. 6, YELLOW RIVER CONCERTO, AND ANY AMERICAN WORK. WE TOLD INFORMALLY THAT THIS PROGRAM DESIGNED FOR NIGHT THAT LEADERSHIP WOULD APPEAR, AND GATHER THAT REQUEST FOR BEETHOVEN'S SIXTH COMES FROM HIGHEST LEVELS.
3. THOUGH ORCHESTRA HAD BROUGHT NO SCORES FOR SIXTH AND HAD NOT REHEARSED IT (SYMPHONY NOT IN NEGOTIATED PROGRAM SCHEDULE), ORMANDY READILY AGREED AND ALSO OFFERED TO DO EXTRA CONCERT DURING TOUR. SCORES FOR BEETHOVEN'S SIXTH FLOWN UP SPECIALLY FROM SHANGHAI SEPTEMBER 13 AND WILL BE REHEARSED TODAY (SEPTEMBER 14). NEW SCHEDULE CALLS FOR CONCERTS IN PEKING SEPTEMBER 14, 15, 16 AND 17, WITH DEPARTURE FOR SHANGHAI SEPTEMBER 19, TWO CONCERTS THERE AND DEPARTURE FOR HOME SEPTEMBER 22. LEADERSHIP PROGRAM NOW SCHEDULED FOR SEPT 16 BUT SUBJECT, OF COURSE, TO LAST MINUTE CHANGE.

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4. CHINESE CLEARLY DELIGHTED WITH ORCHESTRA'S ACCOMMODATING

ATTITUDE. AT NOTABLY CORDIAL WELCOMING BANQUET
PEKING HOTEL SEPTEMBER 13, FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION VICE
PRESIDENT LIN LIN REMEMBERED IN HIS TOAST THAT ORMANDY
HAD CONDUCTED A BENEFIT CONCERT IN 1940 ORGANIZED BY
NORMAN BETHUNE FOR CHINA RELIEF. (ORMANDY HAS VAGUE
RECOLLECTION OF CONCERT.) FACT THAT CHINESE HAVE CHOSEN
TO TAKE PUBLIC NOTE OF THIS EVENT SEEMS FURTHER MARK OF THEIR
INTENT TO MAKE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA TOUR A SUCCESS.

5. "PEOPLE'S DAILY" COVERAGE OF AIRPORT WELCOME AND BANQUET
STRAIGHTFORWARD BUT FULLER THEN FOR NORMAL VISITING GROUPS.
BRUCE

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